AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the

application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.   (currently amended): A measuring probe ~~(S)~~, comprising:

~~having the~~ means ~~to~~ for ~~access~~ accessing data flows composed of packets, transmitted

along a path formed by a multiplicity of equipment in a telecommunication network~~; and~~

~~the~~ measurement means ~~(S_M) to perform~~ for performing measurements, in accordance

with configuration data~~; (B_C), characterised in that in addition it possesses~~

determination means ~~(S_D) employed to determine~~ for determining that one or more

packets transmitted along the said path form a ~~signalling~~ signaling message~~;~~ and

~~signalling~~ signaling means ~~(S_S) to determine~~ for determining ~~the~~ said configuration data

from ~~this signalling~~ said signaling message

wherein said measurement means are operable to transmit measurement reports,

containing said measurements, to a measuring device determined by an identifier contained in

said configuration data; and

said measurements are transmitted to said measuring device by means of a proxy, the

measurement reports transmitted to said proxy containing said identifier.

2.   (currently amended): A measuring probe in accordance with claim 1, ~~in which~~

~~the~~ wherein said measurements are relative to ~~the~~ said data flow.

3-4.   (canceled).

5.   (currently amended): A measuring probe in accordance with claim 1, ~~in which~~ ~~the~~ wherein said determination means ~~of determination (S~~$_D$~~) are suitable for reading~~ are operable to read a specific label, contained in ~~the~~ said received message, and ~~for determining~~ determine whether the said received message is a ~~signalling~~ signaling message from this specific label.

6.   (currently amended): A measuring probe in accordance with claim 1, ~~in which~~ ~~the~~ wherein said configuration base contains a set of records, each record corresponding to a measurement task and each record comprising ~~containing in particular~~:

a filter which determines ~~determining~~ the packets on which the measurements must be performed~~;~~ and

parameters relating to the method of measurement.

7.   (currently amended): A measuring probe in accordance with claim 6~~1~~, in which ~~the~~ said parameters are chosen from ~~a combination~~ the group of factors ~~including~~ comprising:

the time during which the measurements must be performed~~;~~;

sampling data~~, and~~

a hashing function ~~in particular~~;;

a parameter triggering ~~the~~ a time-stamping of the packets to be measured~~;~~;

a parameter triggering ~~the~~ an identification of the packets to be measured, by means of a hashing function ~~in particular~~;;

~~A~~a parameter triggering ~~the~~ a counting of the packets to be measured~~;~~;

the a method for transmitting the measurements to the measuring device (M).

8.   (currently amended): A measuring probe in accordance with claim 1 3, in which wherein the transmissions with the measuring device (M) are made secure.

9.   (currently amended): A measuring probe in accordance with claim 8, in which wherein the means of for making the transmissions with the measuring device secure are transmitted by a signalling signaling message.

10.   (currently amended): A measuring probe in accordance with claim 1, also including further comprising:

means to decide for deciding on the whether creation said signaling means creates of a new measurement task, by the said signalling means (S$_S$), in particular in accordance with a sensitivity indicator associated with the said measuring probe.

11.   (currently amended): A measuring probe in accordance with claim 10, in which wherein said means for deciding also decides the decision is also as a function of a priority contained in the said received message.

12.   (currently amended): A network element, in particular a router, including comprising a measuring probe in accordance with claim 1.

13.   (currently amended): A telecommunication network ~~including~~ comprising

measuring probes in accordance with claim 1.

14.   (currently amended): A telecommunication network in accordance with claim 13,

~~including, in addition,~~ further comprising measuring devices ~~(M)~~.

15.   (new) A method for taking measurements of data flows composed of packets,

transmitted along a path formed by a multiplicity of equipment in a telecommunication network,

the method comprising:

        performing measurements, in accordance with configuration data;

        determining that one or more packets transmitted along the said path form a signaling

message;

        determining said configuration data from said signaling message;

        transmitting measurement reports, containing said measurements, to a measuring device

determined by an identifier contained in said configuration data; and

        transmitting said measurements to said measuring device by means of a proxy, the

measurement reports transmitted to said proxy containing said identifier.

16.   (new) The method of claim 15, wherein said measurements are relative to said

data flow.

17.   (new) The method of claim 15, wherein said determining comprises reading a specific label, contained in said received message, and determining whether said received message is a signaling message from this specific label.

18.   (new) The method of claim 15, wherein said configuration base contains a set of records, each record corresponding to a measurement task and each record comprising:

a filter which determines the packets on which the measurements must be performed; and

parameters relating to the method of measurement.

19.   (new) The method of claim 18, in which said parameters are chosen from the group of factors comprising:

the time during which the measurements must be performed;

sampling data

a hashing function;

a parameter triggering a time-stamping of the packets to be measured;

a parameter triggering an identification of the packets to be measured, by means of a hashing function;

a parameter triggering a counting of the packets to be measured;

a method for transmitting the measurements to the measuring device (M).

20.   (new) The method of claim 1, wherein the transmissions with the measuring device are made secure.

21.   (new) The method of claim 20, wherein means for making the transmissions with the measuring device secure are transmitted by a signaling message.

22.   (new) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

deciding whether a new measurement task is created, in accordance with a sensitivity indicator associated with said measuring probe.

23.   (new) The method of claim 22, wherein said deciding is decided as a function of a priority contained in said received message.

24.   (new) A router comprising a measuring probe implementing the method of claim 15.

25.   (new): A measuring probe, comprising:

means for accessing data flows composed of packets, transmitted along a path formed by a multiplicity of equipment in a telecommunication network, said data flows passing through said measuring probe;

measurement means for performing measurements, in accordance with configuration data;

determination means for determining that one or more packets transmitted along the said path form a signaling message; and

signaling means for determining said configuration data from said signaling message.